

This record is a partial extract of the original cable. The full text of the original cable is not available.

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 ADANA 000214

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [PREL](#) [PINS](#) [PGOV](#) [PHUM](#) [TU](#) [ADANA](#)

SUBJECT: SOUTHEAST TURKEY PRESS SUMMARY FOR NOVEMBER 21, 2005

This is the Southeastern Turkey press summary for November 21, 2005. Please note that Turkish press reports often contain errors or exaggerations; AmConsulate Adana does not vouch for the accuracy of the reports summarized here.

POLITICAL, SECURITY, HUMAN RIGHTS

HURRIYET / RADIKAL / CUMHURIYET / ZAMAN: MGK (National Security Council) General Secretariat has recently placed the Semdinli incident on its agenda. The Council, after probing the deeper roots of the incident, will report its findings to the members of MGK. Separately, Turkish Parliament will reportedly discuss the increasing terrorist events and their causes. The General Assembly of the parliament will discuss the proposals submitted by CHP (Republican People's Party), ANAP (Motherland Party) and AKP (Justice and Development Party) deputies to probe the Semdinli incident. It is expected that an investigatory commission will be set up as a result of these discussions.

CUMHURIYET / HURRIYET: When a group of people attempted to protest the incidents in Semdinli and shouted slogans in support of jailed PKK leader Abdullah Ocalan in separate districts in Istanbul, police intervened and used pepper gas. During an unauthorized protest activity in Istanbul's Kucukcekmece, 12 people were detained.

CUMHURIYET / HURRIYET / ZAMAN: In two separate protests in Mersin, people burned tires and shouted similar slogans in support of Ocalan. Police intervened. A 19-year-old person died as a result of a shot from an unknown shooter. A 15-year-old child was wounded. In a separate protest in Adana, people burned tires and blocked a road while they chanted terrorist slogans in one of the quarters of the Seyhan district. The police intervened and people hurled stones at the police. The fight lasted two hours and faded away when the protestors finally ran away and disappeared in the streets. Five members of the Socialist Platform of the Oppressed People were detained. A group of people staged similar protests against the Semdinli incident in Sirnak's Cizre district.

HURRIYET: PM Erdogan went to Van yesterday night at 9.15 p.m. to pay visits to the Hakkari province's districts and to conduct studies there. Reportedly, the timing of Erdogan's trip was kept secret until his plane took off from Ankara. Minister of Internal Affairs and Minister of Justice will accompany Erdogan during his visit.

HURRIYET: Jandarma Regiment Command (RGJ) reportedly sent a copy of the report it prepared on Semdinli bombing to PM Erdogan. According to the report, ownership of the car and the guns (seized by the local people on the day of the incident) belonged to the Jandarma. The two sergeant majors, who were allegedly involved in this incident, had long been following the owner of the bookshop, where the bombing took place, by means of permission obtained from Van's 3rd Heavy Penalty Court. Seferi Yilmaz, the owner of the bookshop, was reportedly a leading member of a terrorist organization. Upon allegedly receiving a tip-off that Yilmaz would meet one of the brains of the organization, the two sergeants, together with a confessor (PKK defector), who knew the bookshop owner well, waited 150 meters away from the shop. The confessor was reportedly sent to the bookshop to see whether the man the bookshop owner would meet arrived at the spot or not. Just as the confessor entered the building, the explosion took place and the confessor started to run back to the sergeants' car. The local people then attacked the car of the sergeants as they shouted "the bombers are escaping." The local people reportedly seized the firearms and the documents found in the car then.

CUMHURIYET / OZGUR GUNDEM: Today marks the first anniversary of the killing by government security forces of Ahmet Kaymaz, a truck driver, and Ugur Kaymaz, Ahmet Kaymaz's 12-year-old child, in Mardin's Kiziltepe district on the grounds that they were terrorists. Several ceremonies will be held today to remember the event.

OZGUR GUNDEM: According to the daily, the perpetrators of Ahmet and Ugur Kaymaz's deaths are still holding their offices and no progress has been made in their prosecution process. On the contrary, said the daily, the people who are watching the trial sessions in Eskisehir are reportedly being terrorized by the ultra-nationalists. The trial was moved to Eskisehir province out of security concerns by the court.

OZGUR GUNDEM: Three young persons fought with a police

officer in Diyarbakir on the grounds that the officer and two other officers were following them. As the other two officers ran away, three youths beat the officer and seized his gun, badge and mobile phone. The wounded police officer was saved by officers patrolling the area. Three young people, who claimed that the officers would kill them, were detained by the police.

OZGUR GUNDEM: Former Prime Minister Bulent Ecevit said that the U.S. was behind the incidents in Semdinli. The "unfortunate" developments in recent months were caused by circles, which were supported by the U.S., according to Ecevit. ZAMAN / HURRIYET / CUMHURIYET: Ecevit further endorsed the claims of the former PM and President Suleyman Demirel and former President Kenan Evren that there was a separate structure, which deeply embedded itself within the current Turkish state.

ZAMAN: Two explosives were thrown into the Security Directorate's garden in Sirnak's Silopi district yesterday at around 10p.m. No casualties or damage was reported during the incident. Meanwhile, unidentified person(s) threw a hand grenade at the car of a junior officer at 6.30 p.m. in Mardin's Derik district. The grenade did great damage to the car. ZAMAN: Human Rights Watch Organization (HRW) criticized Turkey because of the death of three demonstrators during the incidents that happened in Semdinli.

ZAMAN: National Security Directorate sent 50 special teams to the districts of the Hakkari province following the deployment of anti-riot teams and armored vehicles there.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS

ZAMAN: Businessmen of the southeastern region, who are worried about terrorist activities developing in the region, met in Van upon invitation of the Van Chamber of Commerce and Industry. TOBB (Turkish Union of Chambers and Commodity Exchange) administration came together with the chairpersons of the chambers in the region to discuss the recent developments.

12. BOLGE: A group of industrialists in Adana have returned from their trip to an international fair called MIDEST and EUROPLAST held in France. The trip was organized by the Adana Chamber of Commerce.
REID